

BIG GUESSING CONTEST.

WHO Will Be Elected President of the United States at the Coming Election?
HOW MANY VOTES
WILL HE GET?

The West Virginian Proposes to Give the Best Guessers Some Liberal Prizes.

HERE IS THE PLAN:

We will give to our Patrons and Subscribers

\$250.00 IN GOLD

on the following conditions:

To the person estimating the exact number, or the nearest the exact number of votes cast for the winner in the Presidential contest, we will give \$100.00 in gold.

To the person guessing the next nearest number, \$50.00 in gold.

To the third nearest guesses, \$25.00 in gold.

To the five next nearest, each \$10.00.

To the five next nearest, each \$5.00 in gold.

The thirteen people in this case will be the lucky ones.

CONDITIONS OF THE CONTEST:

1. Each person who is a regular subscriber to the Daily West Virginian on July 6, is entitled to one guess. 2. Each person paying one dollar for a three months' subscription to the West Virginian beginning after July 6 will be entitled to one guess. 3. Any person paying in advance for one year will be entitled to four estimates, or for any part of a year in the same manner, each one dollar paid on subscription entitling the subscriber to a guess. 4. Any person securing two subscribers for three months and paying us two dollars, will be entitled to one guess, or additional guesses in the same proportion, one guess for each two dollars, sent in. The person securing the subscription will be entitled to guess and the persons subscribing will also be entitled to guesses.

TO AID IN MAKING THE ESTIMATE:

In 1892,

Grover Cleveland received 5,552,351 votes.

Benjamin Harrison received 5,176,336 votes.

In 1896,

William McKinley received 7,111,607 votes.

William J. Bryan received 6,509,052 votes.

In 1900,

William McKinley received 7,263,266 votes.

William J. Bryan received 6,415,387 votes.

The guess or guesses of each individual will be kept secret. Who will be the first to record his guess? Remember it begins on Wednesday, July 6. Some one will get first prize, why not you?

"INSURANCE THAT INSURES"

LIBERAL AND NO RESTRICTIONS

FRANCIS E. NICHOLS

... INSURANCE ...

FIRE, ACCIDENT, PLATE GLASS STEAM BOILER, EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY, ELEVATORS.

NO. 315 MAIN STREET.

FAIRMONT, W. VA.

Samuel B. Holbert.

Edward F. Holbert.

"Fire insurance is the best policy."

We represent TWENTY of the strongest and most liberal fire insurance companies in the world, and have unequalled facilities for placing large or small lines at the lowest possible rates. It will pay you to consult us before placing your insurance.

HOLBERT BROTHERS,
General Insurance,

Skinner Block,

Fairmont, W. V.



Trochet's Colchicine Salicylate Capsules.

A standard and infallible cure for RHEUMATISM and GOUT, endorsed by the highest medical authorities of Europe and America. Dispensed only in spherical capsules, which dissolve in liquids of the stomach without causing irritation or disagreeable symptoms. Price, \$1 per bottle. Sold by druggists. Be sure and get the genuine.

WILLIAMS MFG. CO., CLEVELAND, OHIO, Sole Props.

Sold by M. D. Christie.

DR. LYON'S French Periodical Drops

Strictly vegetable, perfectly harmless, sure to accomplish DESIRED RESULTS. Greatest known female remedy. Price, \$1.50 per bottle.

CAUTION Beware of counterfeits and imitations. The genuine is put up only in paste-board Carton with fac-simile signature on side of the bottle, thus: *John S. Lyon*. Send for Circular to WILLIAMS MFG. CO., Sole Agents, Cleveland, Ohio.

Sold by M. D. Christie.

Baltimore & Ohio R. R.

The "Nation's Highway" and "Shortest Route"

TO THE

WORLD'S FAIR, ST. LOUIS.

THREE THROUGH TRAINS DAILY

Vestibuled throughout with Pullman Sleeping Cars, Observation Cars and Dining Cars.

VIA CINCINNATI.

SEASON, SIXTY-DAY

and FIFTEEN-DAY

EXCURSION TICKETS

ON SALE

AT **Very Low Rates.**

Cheap Coach Excursions

From All Stations Announced From Time to Time.

Ask ticket agents for Description World's Fair folder, boarding-house and hotel booklet, guide maps and full information.

Mrs. E. A. McCartney, Ladies Tailoring.

Gentlemen's Cleaning and Repairing. Cheapest price for high grade Tailoring. Third Floor, Carr Building.



Standard for 13 years.

The roofing which has proved that it can resist the greatest extremes of weather and factory conditions. Absolutely waterproof.

Send for samples. Kelley Bros., Fairmont.

PILES! PILES! PILES!

Dr. Williams' Indian Pile Ointment will cure Blind, Bleeding, Ulcerated and Itching Piles. It absorbs the tumors, allays the itching at once, acts as a poultice, gives instant relief. Dr. Williams' Indian Pile Ointment is prepared only for Piles and Itching of the private parts, and nothing else. Every box is guaranteed. Sold by druggists, sent by mail, for 50c. and \$1.00 per box. WILLIAMS MFG. CO., Props., Cleveland, Ohio.

Some nice lots on Hamilton Hill for sale, at a good bargain. H. H. Lanham.

BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD

To the World's Fair—Very Low Rates.

Various forms of excursion tickets to St. Louis, via Baltimore & Ohio Railroad not on sale from Fairmont as follows:

SEASON TICKETS, good to return until December 15, 1904, to be sold daily at the rate of \$26.00 round trip.

SIXTY DAY Excursion Tickets, final limit not later than December 15, 1904, to be sold daily at rate of \$22.10 round trip.

FIFTEEN DAY Excursion tickets, to be sold daily at rate of \$18.00 round trip.

VARIABLE ROUTE EXCURSION tickets, either season or sixty day, will be sold going via one direct route and returning via another direct route, full information concerning which can be obtained from Ticket Agent.

STOP-OVERS not exceeding ten days at each point will be allowed at Washington, Deer Park, Mountain Lake Park, Oakland, Mitchell, Ind., (for French Lick and West Baden Springs), Cincinnati and Chicago within return limit, upon notice to conductor and deposit of ticket with Depot Ticket Agent immediately upon arrival.

STOP-OVERS not exceeding ten days will be allowed at St. Louis on all one-way (except Colonists' Tickets to the Pacific Coast and round trip tickets reading to points beyond St. Louis, upon deposit of ticket with Validating Agent and payment of fee of \$1.00.

Three solid vestibuled trains are run daily from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington via Parkersburg and Cincinnati to St. Louis.

Magnificent coaches, sleeping cars, observation cars and unexcelled dining car service.

For illustrated folder, time table and full information, call at Ticket Office, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.

You Want the Best.

Are you going to spend your vacation somewhere out of town?

If so, of course you will want one of your home papers to follow you. Why not the West Virginian?

It's the best, and of course you want the best, and it will only cost you ten cents per week mailed to any address in the United States.

Some one will get the hundred dollars in gold. It is worth guessing for.

If you once "get the habit," you will always buy your furniture from the Fairmont Furniture Co. Opposite postoffice.

THE BALLOON MAY NOW BE USED IN WARFARE

Much speculation is naturally excited by the expiration last Friday of a prohibition placed upon a certain method of conducting warfare by the international peace conference at The Hague. An agreement was entered into at that time by more than a score of nations to refrain from the use of projectiles which might be dropped from balloons, or bombs, upon explosion, which would diffuse suffocating gases, and of explosive bullets.

To the second of these provisions the United States and England withheld their consent, but the others were adopted unanimously, says the New York Tribune. Again, regarding the second and third there appears to have been no time limit. As for the first of them, it was explicitly agreed that abstinence was to continue for five years only. The conference adjourned on July 29, 1899, and the prohibition dated from that day.

Some of the military possibilities of the balloon were promptly perceived immediately after it was invented. The first notable ascent by the Montgolfier brothers occurred in 1783. Within ten years thereafter a regular school of aeronautics was established at Mondon, under the auspices of the army, and in 1794 the head of it, Col. Contelle, took up with him to a height of over a mile a general and adjutant to observe the position and strength of a hostile force. This incident occurred on the eve of the battle of Fleurus, and the reconnaissance gave the French a distinct advantage over the Austrians. Telegraphy had not then come into use. Hence the information which was secured was transmitted to the commander only after the descent of the balloon. Nevertheless, it contributed directly to the decisive victory which followed. On that occasion the airship was prevented from going astray by means of a rope and windlass—an expedient which has been generally adopted ever since when balloons have been employed for observation. At Santiago in 1898 there was, in addition to the rope, a telegraph wire, by means of which the signal officer aloft could communicate directly and instantaneously with headquarters.

Balloons have been used in almost every great war for a century. The first Napoleon took a number of them into Egypt in order to impress the Arabs with the superiority of European ideas. In the siege of Paris (1870-71) the attempt was made to establish postal communication by means of airships between the beleaguered city and the national authorities outside, but this did not work so satisfactorily as the carrier pigeon service. After all, the principal military use of the balloon hitherto has been reconnaissance, and one officer after another has testified to the help thus received. Lord Wolseley has asserted that he finished his campaign in the Sudan far more quickly than would otherwise have been possible because of such aid.

An observer in a captive balloon is exposed to great danger from the enemy's guns. Even Contelle over a century ago was threatened by a cannon shot, and was obliged to let out more rope to insure safety. To-day the Mauser and other rifles carried by infantry soldiers have a range of three miles or more. At Santiago showers of well directed bullets flew around the signal officers who were on duty and whose elevation was at no time greater than 1,500 feet. There were narrow escapes from instant death on that account, to say nothing of injury from premature descent had the balloon been badly punctured.

Such risks have furnished an important incentive for experimenting with airships which could be kept moving by suitable machinery. In the United States the War Department has lent encouragement to Prof. Langley for that reason, and several European powers have pursued a similar policy for at least twenty years. The prototype of the Santos-Dumont machine was developed by two French army officers, Renard and Krebs. They used electric power instead of gasoline engines to drive their screws, but they adopted the cigar shaped gas bag, in order to lessen the resistance encountered from the atmosphere while flying horizontally. They are said to be the first aeronauts who described a complete circle in the air while aloft, thus demonstrating the feasibility of steering and propelling craft of this kind. No speeds have yet been developed which exceed fifteen or sixteen miles an hour, and no voyage has yet extended over an hour and three-quarters. Little further improvement in these directions is needed, though, to put in the hands of military men an agent of largely increased power. Not only will a good flying machine, properly managed, be able to keep out of the way of an enemy while engaged in reconnaissance, but it should be able to assume the aggressive and work fearful havoc.

The kind of service which now becomes permissible has not hitherto

been attempted, for a variety of reasons. The agreement made at The Hague five years ago has interfered temporarily. Before that prohibition took effect there had been no important war for a considerable period. Besides, the airship had not reached its present state of development. However, both in America and Europe a number of wide-awake men have considered plans for making trouble for an enemy in new ways. One scheme is to operate in the air a mechanism akin to the Whitehead torpedo. The latter propels and steers itself after being launched in the water. The aerial torpedo, if designed for horizontal flight, could be liberated from a captive balloon or an elevated station on land, or form a self-propelled airship of the Santos-Dumont type. It has also been proposed to drop torpedoes from craft of the latter kind, a convenient position first being reached above an army or a town, or even over a ship at sea. Were these torpedoes filled with dynamite or gun cotton, they might do much damage, though it is impossible to say how much. Santos-Dumont has pointed out that from one of his airships it might be possible to hit a submarine boat, even if the latter was submerged. The former being more nimble than the latter, could probably maneuver better, and hence would have the advantage in such a contest. Inasmuch as the blow would be delivered with a suitably weighted torpedo, carrying its charge in its nose, the one essential to success would seem to be a good aim. Gravitation would do the rest.

The possibility of the adoption of this kind of warfare by either Russia or Japan during the present struggle depends upon a number of things. One is the duration of the contest itself. Another is the degree of preparation for it which the combatants may have made in secret. The generally backward state of the Russian provision for the war and the limited amount of attention hitherto given to aerial navigation by the Czar's army officers discourage the expectations that they have anything "up their sleeve" that can be produced on short notice. On the other hand, it should not be forgotten that the French, who have always been conspicuously devoted to aeronautic ventures, are friendly to Russia, and might co-operate with her, had they anything new to offer. Again, Japan, though wonderfully alert to modern methods of fighting, has given no indications of a purpose to avail herself of the privilege now open to her. Perhaps the world may be obliged to wait until the next great war is fought before it witnesses a trial of the aerial torpedo. Nevertheless freedom to use the latter will doubtless encourage inventors to present a number of fresh ideas to the military authorities of the leading powers. That none of these propositions may prove acceptable and revolutionary can not safely be affirmed.

LIVELY CAMPAIGN ON IN VERMONT

REPUBLICANS MAKING A GREAT EFFORT TO BRING OUT THE FULL PARTY STRENGTH.

MONTPELIER, Vt., Aug. 26.—Although the electors of Vermont do not appear to be intensely interested in the State election, which will be held on September 6, a lively campaign is in progress. The Republicans are making strong efforts to induce the entire strength of that party in Vermont to appear at the ballot boxes and roll up a plurality that will set the pace for the rest of the country.

Notable among the speakers whom the party managers have distributed over the State are Senator Fairbanks, the Vice Presidential candidate, Secretary of War Taft, Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, Speaker Joseph G. Cannon, Senators Proctor and Dillingham, Representative J. Adams Bede, of Minnesota; P. H. Campbell, of Kansas, and B. F. Spaulding, of North Dakota.

The Democrats have secured Congressman W. Bourke Cockran, of New York, to deliver three addresses. Edward M. Shepard, of New York; Chas. S. Hamlin, of Boston, and Benjamin F. Shively, of Indiana, are among the other campaigners engaged. Rallies will be held all over the State, arrangements having been made for at most daily meetings from now until September 3.

Russia Still Obstinate.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 25.—The newspaper Russ will tomorrow publish an officially inspired article to the effect that Russia will refuse to accept mediation in her war with Japan under any circumstances.

Reliable Furniture at Fairmont Furniture Co.